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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/660,293	LIN, JEN-CHENG	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Douglas N Washburn	2863	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to filng of 23 March 2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7.
3. The drawings filed on 11 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Prior Art Cited

1 Davis et al. (EP 0687977 A2) teaches a system which includes a cabinet, a status monitor, a display console and a graphical display generator. The status monitor produces status and error information associated with the components (such as temperature or cooling fan rotation rate). A graphical display generator produces a graphical representation of the components and their locations within the cabinet on the display console. Status and error information, associated with each component, is also displayed on the display console. Davis is silent regarding a dial meter installed at a back of a face panel having a display window on a front surface and connected to an output of a signal detection circuit to display operation data value retrieved from hardware components.

Smith et al. (US 5,351,176) teaches a front panel display construction for computers. The front panel includes a panel assembly secured to the computer having an opening to provide access to internal components of the computer and a display member pivotably secured to the panel assembly which pivots between an open position and a closed position. In the open position the internal components of the computer are accessible to a user or operator and in the closed position, access to the internal components is inhibited. Smith is silent regarding a dial meter installed at a back of a face panel having a display window on a front surface and connected to an output of a signal detection circuit to display operation data value retrieved from hardware components.

Kim et al. (US 5,920,264) teaches a protection device for a micro-controller chip comprising a heat sink, a cooling fan, and an overheat alarm. The heat sink is mounted on a micro-controller chip and dissipates heat generated by the micro-controller chip. The cooling fan disperses the heat dissipated by the heat sink into the surrounding atmosphere. The overheat alarm includes a temperature sensor, a voltage comparator, an oscillator, and alarm sound generator. The temperature sensor converts a temperature of the heat sink into electrical signals and outputs a voltage proportional to the temperature of the heat sink. A voltage comparator compares the voltage output from the temperature sensor with a reference voltage signal and outputs a comparator output voltage. The oscillator generates and outputs an oscillating voltage signal. The alarm sound generator is enabled by the comparator output voltage from the voltage comparator for generating an alarm sound by operating a speaker in accordance with the input oscillating voltage signal from the oscillator.

Miller et al. (US 5,930,736) teaches a fan monitoring system for an electronics system or a computer system. The fan monitoring system includes a fan producing a rotation signal. The fan monitoring system also includes a detection circuit responsive to the rotation signal and producing an operating signal indicative of the fan rotating. The fan monitoring system also includes a fan detection circuit having a primary connection point capable of being electrically coupled to the fan. The fan detection circuit provides a detection signal indicative of whether or not the fan is electrically coupled to the fan detection circuit. The fan monitoring system further includes an I/O circuit for receiving the fan detection signal and the operating signal. The I/O circuit providing I/O signals to a host computer system as determined by the operating signal and/or the detection signals. Miller is silent regarding a dial meter installed at a back of a face panel having a display window on a front surface and connected to an output of a signal detection circuit to display operation data value retrieved from hardware components.

Collings et al. (US 6,054,823) teaches an apparatus for sensing the rotation of a brushless DC fan. The apparatus includes a fan, sense/driver circuit and a capacitance. The sense/driver circuit is coupled to the fan to receive a sense input signal. The sense/driver circuit processes the sense input signal to generate a sense output signal indicative of fan operation. Collings is silent regarding a dial meter installed at a back of a face panel having a display window on a front surface and connected to an output of a signal detection circuit to display operation data value retrieved from hardware components.

Allowable Subject Matter

2 The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 recites, in part, "a dial meter being installed at a back of a face panel that has a display window on a front surface, wherein the dial meter is connected to an output of the signal detection circuit to display operation data value retrieved from the hardware component". This feature in combination with the remaining claimed structure avoids the prior art of record.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1.

It is these limitations, which are not found, taught or suggested in the prior art of record, and are recited in the claimed combination that makes these claims allowable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas N Washburn whose telephone number is (571) 272-2284. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 6:30 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DNW



John Barlow
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